

## **ABSTRACT**

An invention related to an X-ray device for the generation of brief X-ray pulses comprising an X-ray tube having a thermionic cathode and an anode and an X-ray generator having a first circuit for the generation of a high-voltage pulse which is applied to the anode for the generation of the X-ray pulse. The X-ray generator further comprising a second circuit by which a low voltage is continuously applied to the anode which pre-heats the X-ray tube and is at most sufficient for the generation of low-energy X-radiation. The first circuit can have a high-voltage power supply unit which charges a high-voltage capacitor which can be applied to the anode via a high-voltage switch. The first circuit can be a Marx generator. There may be only one power supply, which both generates the continuously low voltage and also drives the Marx generator for the generation of the high voltage. The X-ray unit can be part of an apparatus for the inspection of objects which has an imaging apparatus for the generation of an image of the object by means of the X-ray.